

# Space Communications and Navigation (SCaN) Overview

## Explorer Pre-Proposal Conference

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National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)







# Three Networks Span the Globe



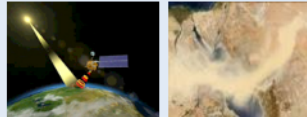
## Human Spaceflight Missions



## Sub-Orbital Missions



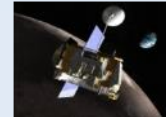
## Earth Science Missions



## Space Science Missions



## Lunar Missions



## Solar System Exploration



Deep Space Network



Near Earth Network



Space Network



# Overview of the Three Networks



## Deep Space Network



Large, slow-tracking antennas located ~ 120 degrees apart around the Earth – optimized for tracking spacecraft beyond Geosynchronous Orbit (GEO)

## Near Earth Network

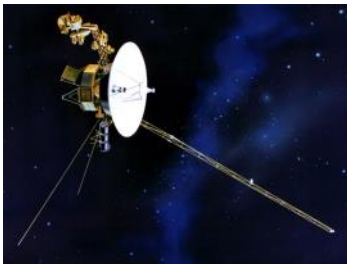
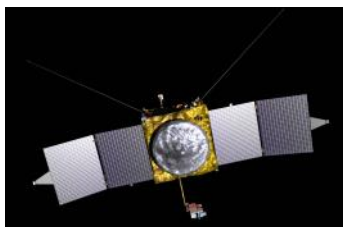


Small, fast-tracking antennas in many locations – optimized for short-pass tracking of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) spacecraft

## Space Network



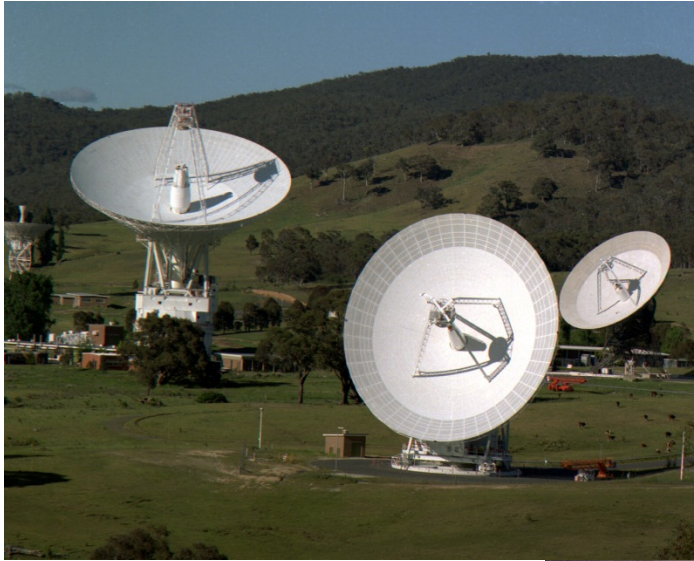
Downward-looking Earth-orbiter-based antennas – optimized for highly-capable LEO spacecraft, including human spaceflight







# Deep Space Network (DSN)



**Canberra Deep Space Communications Complex**



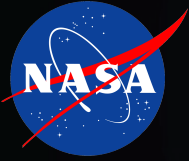
**Madrid Deep Space Communications Complex**



**Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex**

*NASA's Deep Space Network (DSN) was established in December 1963 to provide a communications infrastructure for all of NASA's robotic missions beyond Low Earth Orbit.*

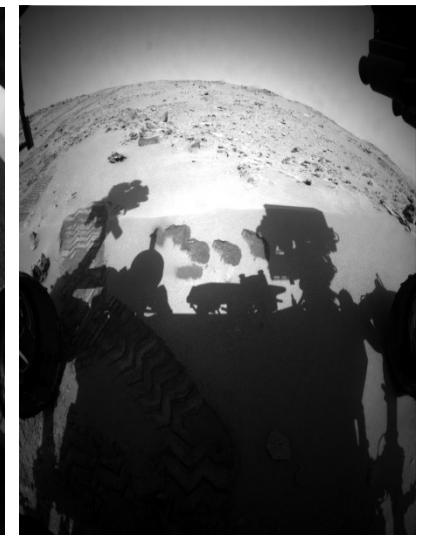
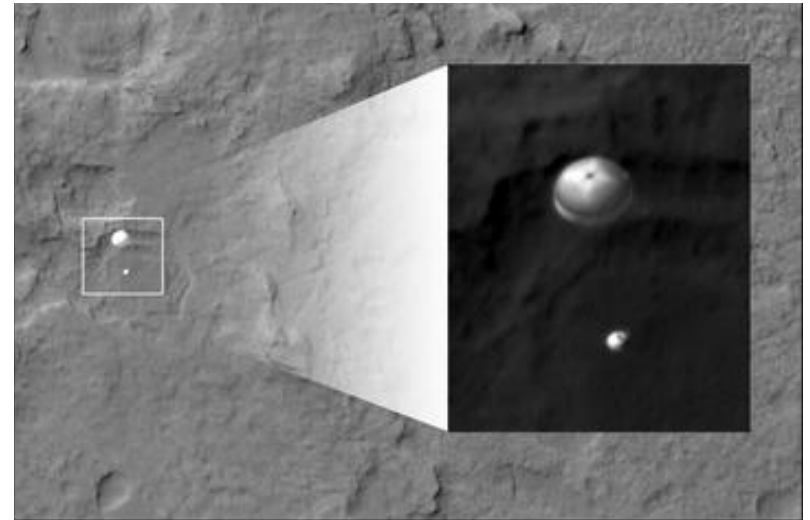




# Curiosity Supported by the DSN



- The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) captured pictures of Curiosity's parachute.
  - MRO is supported by the Deep Space Network.
- Curiosity's first images of Mars were transmitted by the DSN. The DSN continues to support Curiosity as it makes new discoveries.





# Near Earth Network (NEN)



**Svalbard Ground Station**



**McMurdo Ground Station**



**WS1 Antenna at White Sands**



**Wallops Ground Station (WGS)**





# Near Earth Network Missions



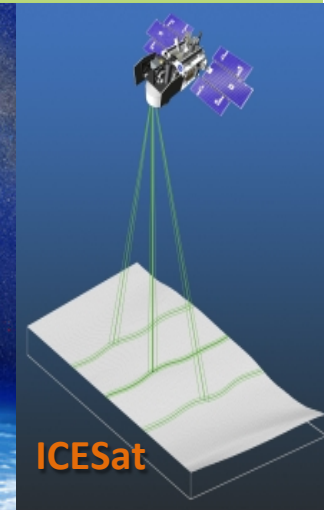
RBSP



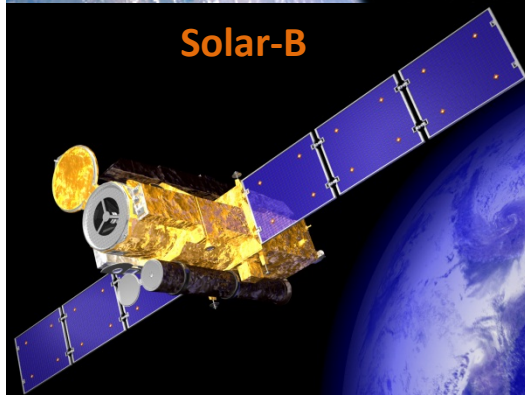
RHESSI



QuikSat



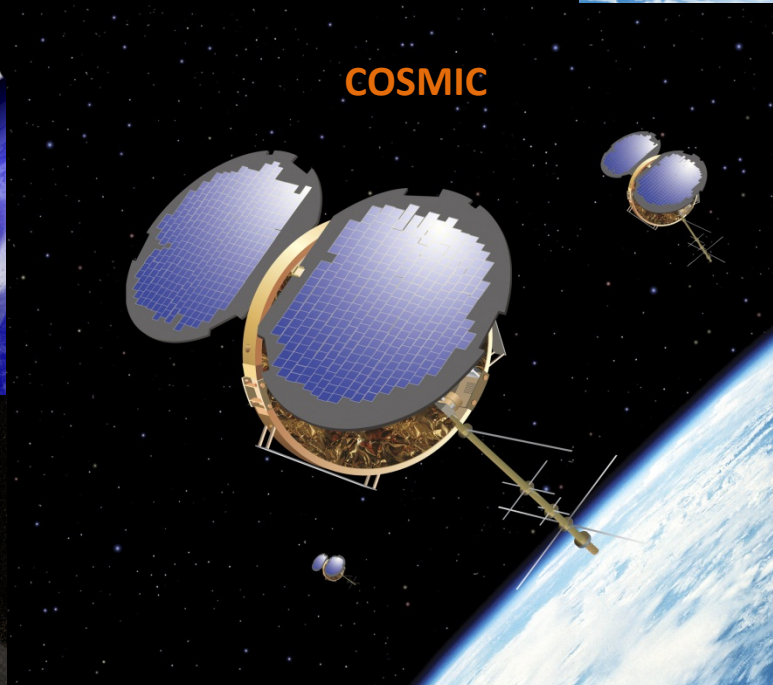
ICESat



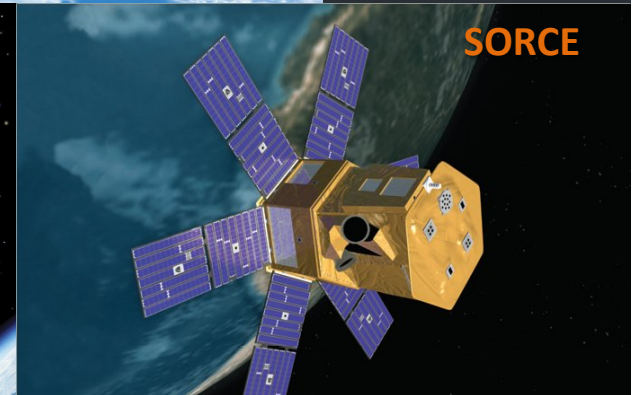
Solar-B



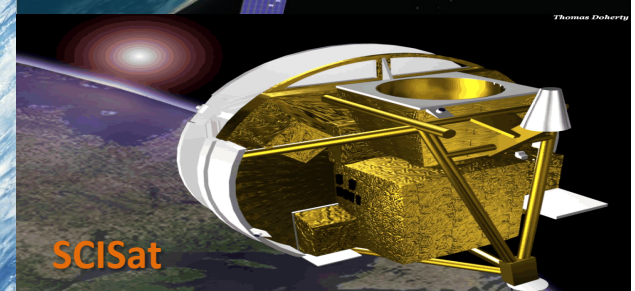
LRO



COSMIC



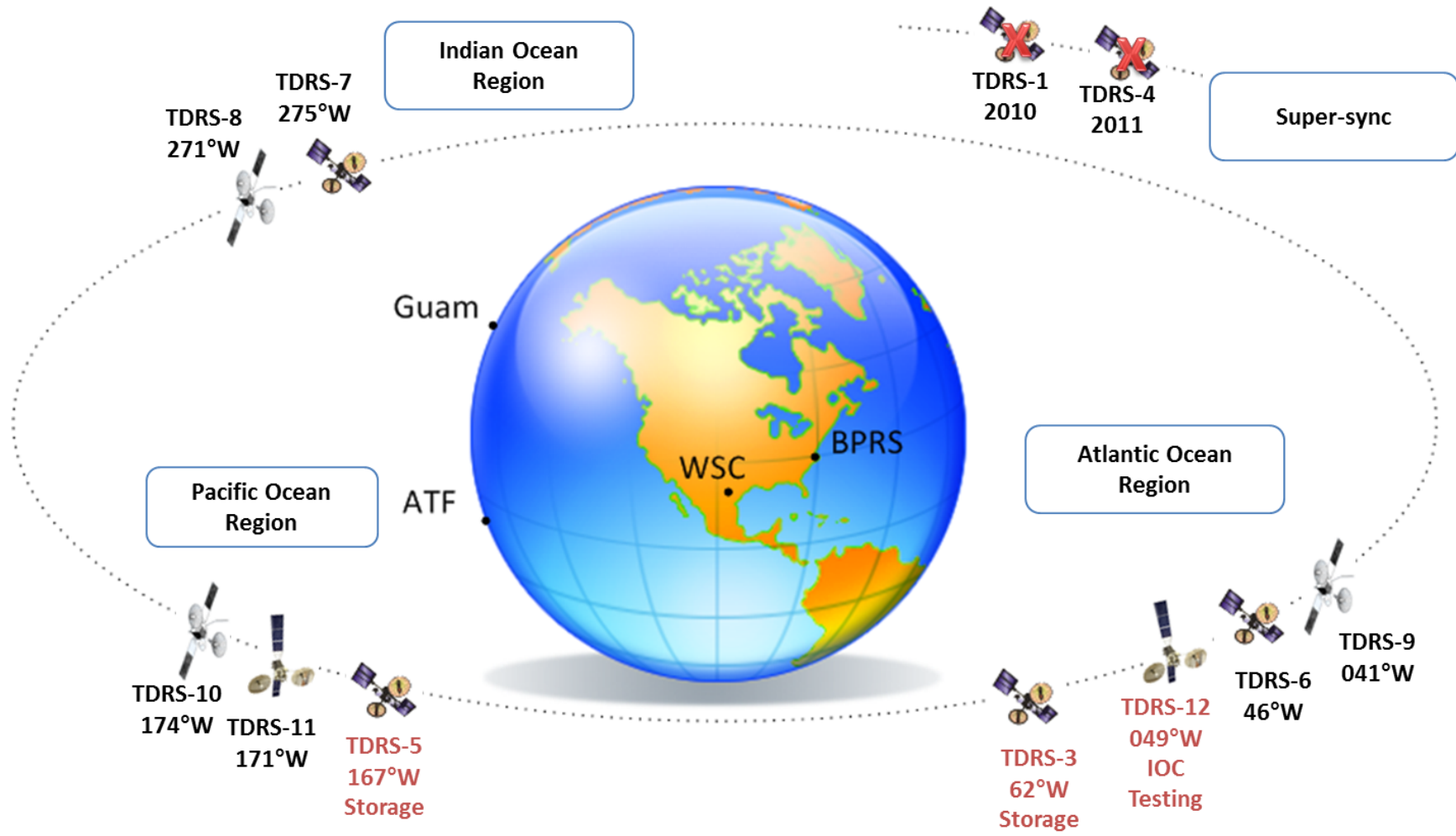
SORCE



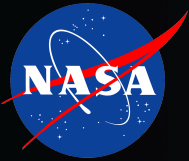
SCISat



# Space Network: Tracking and Data Relay Satellite Fleet







# Original Space Network Concept: 1970's

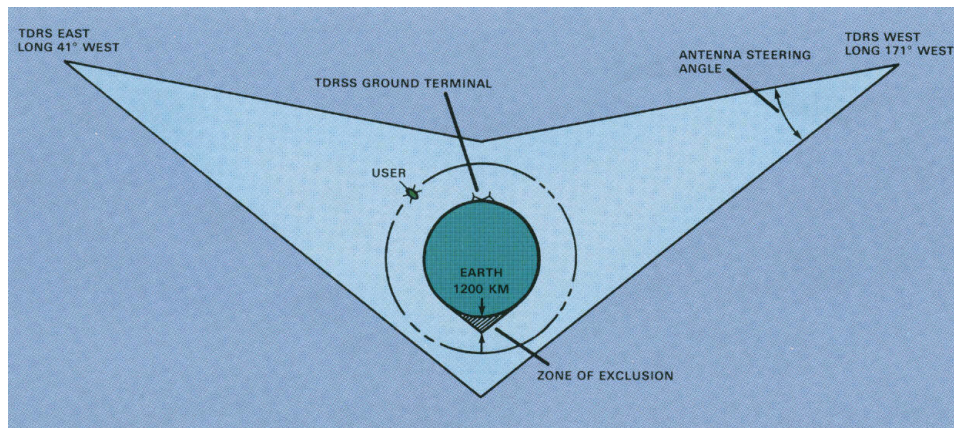
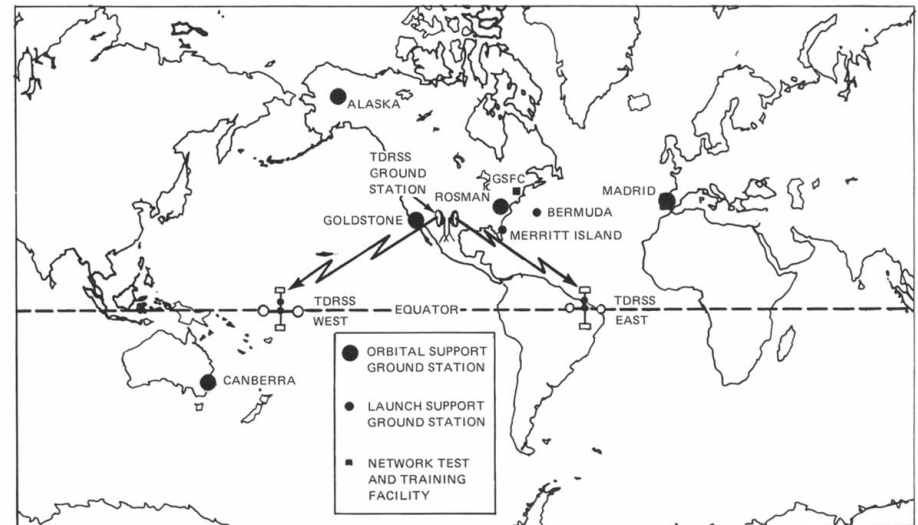


- Spacecraft

- Two geosynchronous operational locations at 41°W and 171° W.
- One on-orbit spare
- Zone of Exclusion, 15° (Indian Ocean)
- Customer driven “bent pipe” relay system for tracking, telemetry, and command data
- Increased tracking and data acquisition coverage from 15% to 85% per orbit of low earth orbiting spacecraft, as well as decreased operational costs
- Two bands in the upper spectrum: S- and Ku-bands

- Ground

- Ground station at White Sands, NM
- Flight Dynamics Facility and Network Control Center at Goddard Space Flight Center







# Space Network Evolution



White Sands, New Mexico (STGT)

- Added the Guam Remote Ground Terminal in 1998 for achieving 100% coverage for virtually all customers
- Added Ka-band from TDRS-8 onward.
- Increased fleet size from two to six operational space crafts to meet growing demand and added Second TDRSS Ground Terminal.



White Sands, New Mexico (WSGT)



Guam Island (GRGT)

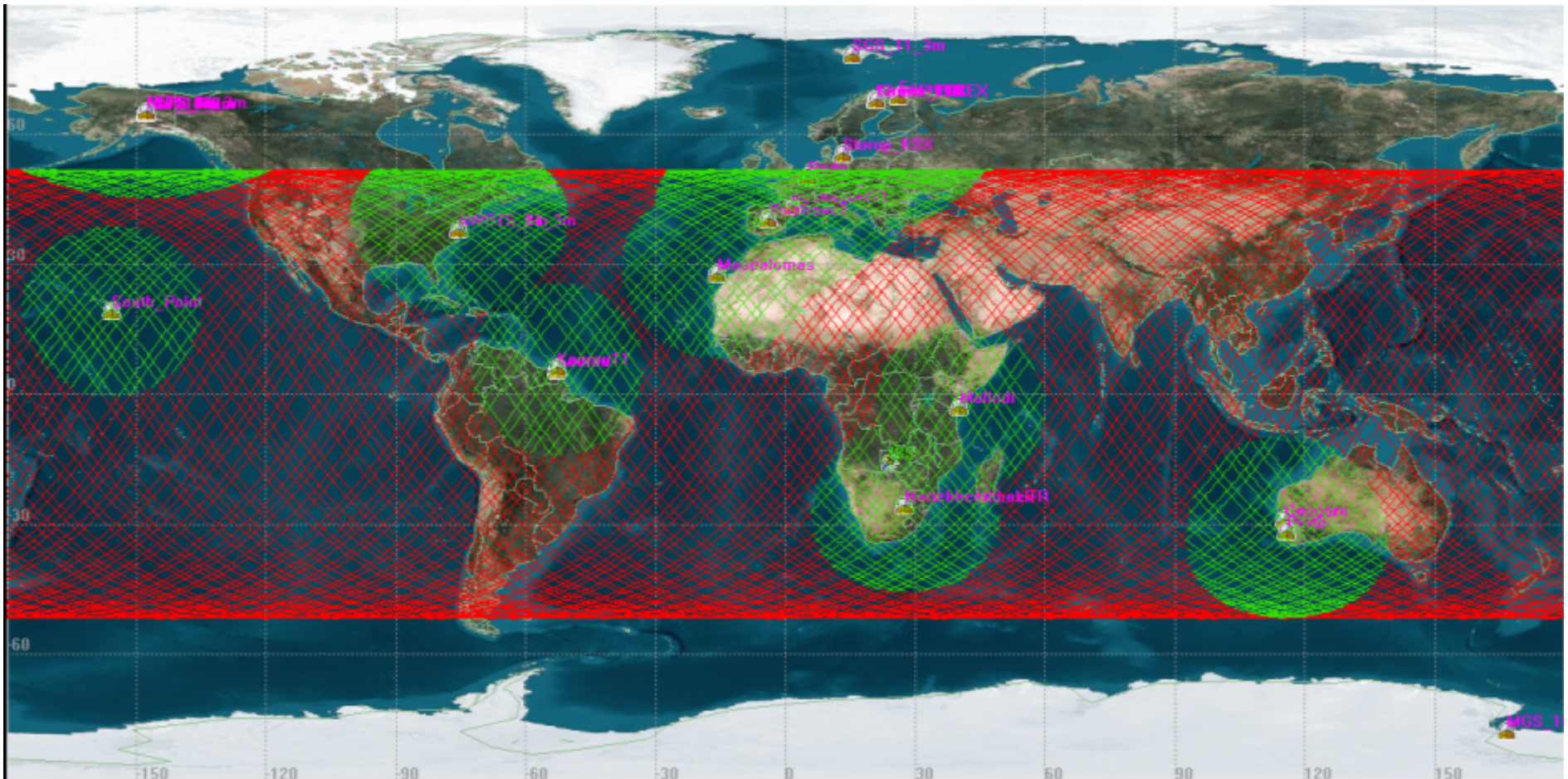




# ISS Coverage is Limited



Typical ISS flight path coverage for 1 week without TDRS



Tracks in green indicate possible ISS support from ground antennas

Tracks in red indicate unsupportable portions of flight path

Note: Does not meet human spaceflight (HSF) redundant comm requirements





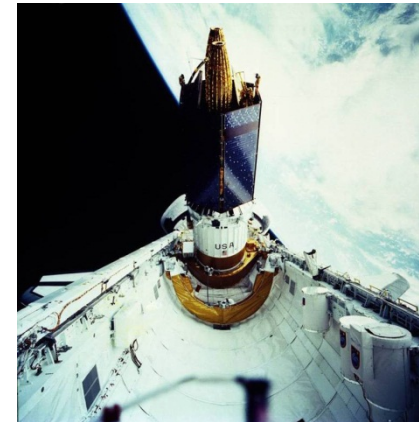




# TDRS Launch History and Plans



TDRS	Launch Date
TDRS-A (TDRS-1)	April 4, 1983 <i>(Retired Fall 2009, Disposal June 2010)</i>
TDRS-B	Destroyed January 28, 1986 in Challenger explosion
TDRS-C (TDRS-3)	September 29, 1988
TDRS-D (TDRS-4)	March 13, 1989 <i>(Retired December 2011, Disposal April 2012)</i>
TDRS-E (TDRS-5)	August 2, 1991
TDRS-F (TDRS-6)	January 13, 1993
TDRS-G (TDRS-7)	July 13, 1995 (replacement for TDRS-B)
TDRS-H (TDRS-8)	June 30, 2000
TDRS-I (TDRS-9)	March 8, 2002
TDRS-J (TDRS-10)	December 4, 2002
TDRS-K (TDRS-11)	January 30, 2013
TDRS-L (TDRS-12)	January 23, 2014
TDRS-M (TDRS-13)	Available for launch in 2016



TDRS 1 – 7 were delivered via Space Shuttle



TDRS 8 – 13 were/will be launched by EELVs



# TDRS-K: Launched January 30, 2013

## TDRS-L: Launched January 23, 2014



TDRS-K



TDRS-L



TDRS-K



TDRS-L



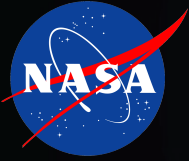


# NASA Telecommunications Policy



- NASA Policy Directive 8074.1, Management and Utilization of NASA's Space Communication and Navigation Infrastructure, states NASA Mission Directorates (MDs) shall:
  - Use SCAaN networks to meet their communication and navigation requirements for human and robotic space missions
  - Where appropriate and cost-effective for the Agency, MDs, in coordination with the SCAaN Program Office, may use pre-existing infrastructure external to NASA for this purpose, as long as no new facilities are constructed using NASA funds
  - Not design or develop space Communications & Navigation infrastructures independent of SCAaN

**Note: This policy is currently undergoing the renewal process and is under final review.**



# NASA Telecommunications Requirements



- Announcement of Opportunity Explorer 2014  
Telecommunications, Tracking, and Navigation
- NASA's **Mission Operations and Communications Services (MOCS)**  
document in Explorer Program Library and posted on the AO web site.
  - Network Support Costs
  - Required Proposal Information
  - Points of Contact

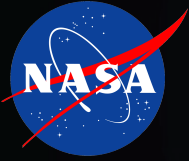




# SCaN Customer Commitment Offices



- JPL/DSN Commitments Future Planning Office
  - Deep Space Network mission design, proposal support, service agreements and compatibility testing
  - <http://deepspace.jpl.nasa.gov/advmiss>
- GSFC/Network Integration Management Office (NIMO)
  - Space Network and Near Earth Network mission design, proposal support, service agreements and compatibility testing
  - <http://scp.gsfc.nasa.gov/nimo>



# SCaN Points of Contact



- SCaN Program Office/NASA HQ
  - Gary A. Morse/SCaN Mission Commitment Manager
  - [Gary.a.Morse@nasa.gov](mailto:Gary.a.Morse@nasa.gov)
  - (202) 358-0504
- JPL/DSN Commitments Future Planning Office
  - Stefan Waldherr/Commitments Engineer
  - [Stefan.Waldherr@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Stefan.Waldherr@jpl.nasa.gov)
  - (818) 354-3416
- GSFC/Network Integration Management Office (NIMO)
  - Scott Greatedorex/Chief, NIMO
  - [Scott.A.Greatedorex@nasa.gov](mailto:Scott.A.Greatedorex@nasa.gov)
  - (301) 286-6354